

## STRATEGY 6:

# Engage State and Community Leaders

Engaging leadership and stakeholders statewide is critical to maintain commitment to agricultural biotechnology and achieving 30 in 10. Four distinct activities have been identified:

### 1. North Carolina's AgBiotech Leadership Council:

- Establish a high-level group co-chaired by the Commissioner of Agriculture and the president and CEO of the North Carolina Biotechnology Center to ensure shared thinking, coordinate activities and goals and induce imaginative long-term thinking.

### 2. Annual Agricultural Biotechnology Leadership Summits:

- Under guidance of North Carolina's AgBiotech Leadership Council, large meetings will be held at regular intervals to convene parties around key topics: policy, environmental and sustainability issues, animal agriculture, marine resources, aquaculture, forestry, biofuels, niche and specialty crops, markets and competition, new biotechnology developments, and education.
- The meetings will document and trigger agricultural biotechnology outcomes. Reports of the Agricultural Biotechnology Advisory Committee will be a lead component. Each Summit will outline current status and recommend new activities. The meetings will also shape strategies for subsequent years of focused attention to agricultural biotechnology in North Carolina.

### 3. Agricultural Biotechnology Policies Portfolio:

- Smart policies, whether based in legislation or activity, are the tools by which good ideas can move to reality and responsible behavior. An ongoing consortium of project steering committee members and others will merge needs with vision and craft a package of recommended state policies for responsible economic development of agricultural biotechnology in key areas, likely to include: land use; environment and sustainability; regulations and permitting; grower support; energy, biofuels, and agriculture; company development; commercialization; and rural and community development.

### 4. Program of Work 2011:

- Using the work and efforts of the Leadership Council, Leadership Summits and Policies Portfolio, propose agricultural biotechnology as the Institute for Emerging Issues 2011 program of work.

Responsibility for initial implementation will be determined by a member of the Agricultural Biotechnology Advisory Committee and shared with partners around the state.